



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Naoyasu MIYAGAWA, et al. Art Unit: 2753

Serial No.: 09/460,222 Examiner: N. Hindi

Filed: November 22, 1999

For: SYSTEM INCLUDING OPTICAL RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL DISKS WITH VARIOUS DISK SUBSTRATE THICKNESS AND SIGNAL PROCESSING APPARATUS (AS AMENDED)

DECLARATION AS TO INACCESSIBILITY OF LETTERS PATENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

The undersigned, a duly authorized representative of Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd., the Assignee of the entire right, title and interest in U.S. Patent No. 5,235,581 and the Applicant for a reissue patent based on the above-identified original patent, hereby declares that said original patent is inaccessible as it was surrendered in connection with parent reissue application number 08/396,981 (now RE 36445 issued December 14, 1999).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under

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Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the reissue application or of any reissue patent to issue thereon.

For and on behalf of
MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.


(Signature)

Osamu Yamazaki
Director, Intellectual Property Center
Authorized Signing Officer

(Name)

FEB 15 2001

(Date)

(Title)